

HOME OFFICE

Report of the Committee
of the Police Council
for England and Wales on
POLICE UNIFORM



LONDON

HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1958

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE POLICE COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES ON POLICE UNIFORM

To the Right Honourable R. A. Butler, C.H., M.P.

Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department

SIR,

1. We were appointed following representations which had been made on uniform from time to time by police authorities, chief constables and Branch Boards, to consider the following matters relating to the uniform of police forces in England and Wales:

- (1) whether any changes in the design and materials of police uniform for use in hot weather are desirable;
- (2) whether open-neck jackets should be adopted for wear in winter by sergeants and constables;
- (3) whether woollen gloves should be replaced by leather gloves;
- (4) whether standard specifications should be recommended for
 - (a) waterproof raincoats;
 - (b) protective clothing and other garments for wear by motor cyclists; and
 - (c) uniform clothing for dog handlers.

2. The present standard design of police uniform for men is set out in the *Report of the Committee of the Police Council on Police Uniform*, December 1947, (hereinafter referred to as the 1947 Report).

3. We have had regard in our enquiry to the consideration that the primary responsibility for determining the style of uniform to be provided rests largely with police authorities; but we have proceeded on the assumption that it is in the interests of the police service generally that there should be standardisation of uniform in all essential respects. We have had to keep in mind, also, that an uncertain climate and the variable weather conditions experienced in the different police areas do not always allow of hard and fast conclusions being reached, and that a certain amount of discretion about the form of dress appropriate at any particular time will always have to be exercised by chief constables. We have now completed our enquiry, and have the honour to submit our report.

Whether any changes in the design and materials of police uniform for use in hot weather are desirable

4. There are two aspects of this question, namely—
 - (i) whether a uniform of lighter weight material than those materials already prescribed in the 1947 Report should be provided for wear in normal summer weather; and
 - (ii) whether a special type of shirt and self-supporting trousers should be provided for wear in very hot weather.

The materials recommended in the 1947 Report for jackets and trousers for men sergeants and constables are T.71, T.66 and Liverpool serge, weights 27½ ozs., 23½ ozs. and 26 ozs. per linear yard respectively. An additional material T.9, weight 28 ozs. per linear yard, was recommended for trousers only. A number of police forces have been experimenting with the use of light weight uniform for summer wear, made up in materials weighing 17½ ozs. or 19/20 ozs. per linear yard. Some forces have introduced a light weight jacket only, which is worn with the heavier weight trousers, because it was felt that lightweight trousers might not be suitable for carrying truncheons and handcuffs. Other forces, however, have introduced both light weight jackets and trousers and have found that the light weight trousers are quite suitable for carrying the truncheon and handcuffs. It has been found desirable to have the light weight jackets fitted so that a cardigan can be worn underneath on early or late turns of duty. Where light weight uniform has been introduced it has been found to be satisfactory in wear and to be popular with the men. Our members who are the representatives of the Police Federation informed us that the replies to a questionnaire from the Federation to all Branch Boards showed an overwhelming majority of men in favour of light weight uniform.

In some police forces in very hot weather sergeants and constables are allowed to discard their uniform jackets, even where light weight jackets have been provided, and to perform duty in shirt sleeves. Where this is allowed, we are agreed that, in order to ensure a neat and uniform appearance, shirts with pockets and detachable epaulettes for numerals, etc., and self-supporting trousers should be provided.

Standard materials for policewomen's uniform have not been laid down, but we understand that the weight of the material of policewomen's uniform is normally much lighter than that of the men, and the question of a light weight jacket and skirt for women sergeants and constables does not, therefore, arise. (In a later section of our Report we recommend the adoption of the Metropolitan policewomen's uniform as the standard pattern, and the weight of the material of the jacket and skirt is 17½ ozs. per linear yard.) Where women sergeants and constables are allowed to do duty in shirt sleeves, we are agreed that they should be provided with shirts with one pocket and detachable epaulettes for numerals, etc.

We have therefore decided to recommend—

- (i) that light weight jackets and trousers should be provided for wear in summer by men sergeants and constables;
- (ii) that shirts with breast pockets and detachable epaulettes should be provided for wear in very hot weather by men sergeants and constables allowed to do duty in shirt sleeves; and that the trousers should be self-supporting;
- (iii) that shirts with one breast pocket on the left and detachable epaulettes should be provided for wear in very hot weather by women sergeants and constables allowed to do duty in shirt sleeves; and
- (iv) that the appropriate body should be invited to consider whether the items referred to in (i)–(iii) above should be in addition to or in lieu of ordinary issues.

OFFICERS OF THE RANK OF INSPECTOR AND ABOVE

The material recommended in the 1947 Report for jackets and trousers for men superintendents and inspectors is Manchester serge, weight 22 ozs. per linear yard. We recommend that men of the rank of inspector and above should be provided with light weight jackets and trousers for wear in hot

weather, of the same design as at present (specifications 13 and 14 in Appendix I of the 1947 Report), but made up in one of the materials recommended in Appendix II of this Report; and if they perform duty in shirt sleeves, the trousers should be self-supporting.

The question of a light weight jacket and skirt for women of the rank of inspector and above does not arise, for the same reason stated above in the case of women sergeants and constables.

We consider that the design of the special types of shirts recommended for men and women sergeants and constables, respectively, allowed to do duty in shirt sleeves, would be suitable for men and women of the rank of inspector and above who perform duty in shirt sleeves.

Design and materials of light weight uniform for men sergeants and constables

DESIGN

5. *Jacket.* We compared an open-neck jacket of the present design for sergeants and constables, namely, with five chromium plated buttons, two out-patch pleated breast pockets and no belt (specification 1 of Appendix I of the 1947 Report) with a jacket similar to that worn by all members of the Scottish police forces, which has four chromium plated buttons, two out-patch pleated breast pockets, two out-patch side pockets and a cloth belt all round fastening with a chromium plated buckle. We agreed that the jacket with four outside pockets, cloth belt and chromium plated buckle looked smarter than the jacket with two outside breast pockets and no belt, and that a further improvement would be the substitution of the out-patch side pockets by inside pockets with flaps on the outside fastening with a button.

We recommend that the light weight jacket for sergeants and constables should have four chromium plated buttons, two out-patch pleated breast pockets, two inside lower pockets with flaps on the outside fastening with a button, and a cloth belt all round fastening with a chromium plated buckle. A detailed specification is given (Specification No. 1) in Appendix I and photographs are appended (Plates 1-3). It is our view that if this style of jacket is adopted for wear in summer, it will naturally follow that in time the same style will be adopted for winter jackets.

Trousers. We do not consider that any change is necessary in the pattern of trousers (Specification No. 2 in Appendix I). We suggest that the style of self-supporting trousers should be left to the discretion of each police authority, but we recommend that, as the physique of some men would make it difficult to get a proper fit around the waist, cloth, leather or fitted belts should be provided; and that hip pockets should be fitted with flaps to button up to prevent documents protruding and showing when the jacket is discarded.

MATERIALS

6. We considered whether materials containing man-made fibres could be recommended for light weight uniforms, but, although some police forces have been experimenting with materials containing man-made fibres, we do not think sufficient experience has been gained to justify recommending them for general adoption by the police.

The materials used by the police forces which have been experimenting with light weight uniform are Baratheas, weight 17½ ozs. per linear yard, Botany Worsted Serge, weight 19 ozs. per linear yard and Serge OS/2295, weight 19/20 ozs. per linear yard. These materials have been found satisfactory in wear in various parts of the country and we recommend them as suitable for light weight uniform. Details of the three materials are given in Appendix II.

**Special shirts for men and women sergeants and constables
allowed to do duty in shirt sleeves**

7. In some police forces where " shirt-sleeve " order is permitted, shirts with two breast pockets and detachable navy blue epaulettes have been provided. When jackets are discarded, shirts with pockets to carry documents, etc. are desirable. The advantages of the navy blue epaulettes are that numerals and divisional markings show up more clearly than on epaulettes of the same material as the shirt, and that they do not get soiled.

We recommend—

- (i) that men sergeants and constables allowed to do duty in shirt sleeves should be provided with R.A.F. blue shirts with two breast pockets and detachable navy blue gaberdine epaulettes (specifications of the shirt and epaulettes are given (Specifications No. 3 and No. 4) in Appendix I); and
- (ii) that women sergeants and constables allowed to do duty in shirt sleeves should be provided with R.A.F. blue, or white, shirts with one breast pocket on the left side and detachable navy blue gaberdine epaulettes. Specifications of the shirt and epaulettes are given (Specifications No. 5 and No. 6) in Appendix I.

**Whether open-neck jackets should be adopted for wear in winter
by sergeants and constables (men)**

8. The 1947 Uniform Committee recommended (paragraph 6 of their Report) that open-neck jackets should be adopted for sergeants and constables for wear in the summer months, and that if after experience it should be found that they were generally favoured in preference to closed-neck jackets for all seasons, consideration should be given to their adoption for wear all the year round. A number of police forces (including the Metropolitan police) have since adopted open-neck jackets for wear all the year round, and where this has been done the health of the men has not suffered and the men approve of the change. Our members who are the representatives of the Police Federation informed us that a referendum taken by the Federation has shown an overwhelming majority of men in favour of open-neck jackets for wear all the year round.

We therefore recommend that open-neck jackets for sergeants and constables should be adopted for wear all the year round, as and when stocks of closed-neck jackets are used up; and that, having regard to this recommendation, the appropriate body should be invited to consider whether the present scale of issue of shirts, collars and ties is sufficient.

Whether woollen gloves should be replaced by leather gloves

9. The replacing of woollen gloves by leather gloves has been the subject of many representations from Branch Boards on the ground that woollen gloves do not stand up to hard wear and have to be continually darned, and that men often wear their own leather gloves on night duty.

We examined a variety of gloves made of wool/nylon and wool/terylene mixtures, some with leather palms, together with specimens of leather gloves from some of the police forces which have been experimenting with and have subsequently provided them. The experience of these forces is that leather gloves last two or more years and may be more economical in the long run than woollen gloves. The replies to a questionnaire to Chief Officers of Police show an overwhelming majority of men and women sergeants and constables in favour of leather gloves.

We therefore recommend that black leather gloves should be substituted for black woollen gloves for general wear by men sergeants and constables, and that women sergeants and constables should have black or brown leather gloves.

**Whether standard specifications should be recommended
for waterproof raincoats**

10. Raincoats were introduced as a regular issue as a result of the recommendations of the 1947 Uniform Committee. That Committee recommended that a waterproof garment should be issued in addition to the greatcoat and cape and that where this was done the period of serviceability of the greatcoat and cape should be extended (paragraph 23 of the 1947 Report). The period of wear of greatcoats was accordingly extended from 4 to 6 years and later from 6 to 8 years; and that of capes from 8 or 10 years to 10 years. The period of wear of the raincoat was first fixed at 4 years and later reduced to 3 years. Representations were subsequently received from some forces that raincoats did not stand up to 3 years' wear and replacements had to be made after 2 years. In January, 1956, the Staff Side of Panel C of the Police Council for Great Britain represented that members of police forces should have two raincoats in their possession and that there should be an issue every two years. The matter was remitted to a sub-committee, which recommended that raincoats and mackintoshes should be issued as required, with two in possession after the second issue. This recommendation was accepted by Panel C, and in September, 1956, the Police Regulations were amended to provide for two raincoats or mackintoshes to be in possession. The scale of issue of greatcoats, capes and rain-coats or mackintoshes laid down in the Police Regulations is now as follows:

MEN					
<i>Article</i>	<i>Issue</i>			<i>Period of Wear</i>	<i>Number in Possession</i>
Greatcoat ...	Every four years ...	...	...	Eight years ...	Two
Cape ...	As required, but not more than one issue every five years			Ten years ...	Two
Raincoat or Mackintosh	As required	...	...	—	Two
WOMEN					
Greatcoat ...	Every three years	...	...	Six years ...	Two
Raincoat or Mackintosh	As required	...	...	—	Two

Specifications of a gaberdine raincoat and a paramatta mackintosh were recommended by the 1947 Uniform Committee (Specifications 11 and 12, respectively, in Appendix I of the 1947 Report), but the Committee suggested that the particular type of raincoat to be issued should be left to the discretion of each police authority (paragraph 24 of the Report). Subsequently it was found that after relatively short periods of wear mackintosh coats made to specification 12 showed whitish coloured patches in places where they were subject to rubbing, e.g. on the front and back and under the sleeves and belt. The defect appeared to be due to the use of double texture cashmere of which both the inner and outer textures were entirely cotton, and police authorities were advised that the outer texture should consist of "Union" cashmere, i.e. 64 per cent. wool and 36 per cent. cotton.

A questionnaire to Chief Officers of Police shows that the majority of forces issue either gaberdine raincoats or paramatta mackintoshes and that some issue both; and that there are satisfactory and unsatisfactory features of each type of coat.

Gaberdine raincoats are popular with both men and women, who often wear them in preference to the greatcoat. Ordinary gaberdine, however, is shower-proof only, and does not keep out heavy rain, and a waterproof interlining over the shoulders and in the top half of the sleeves, or a full length waterproof inner lining is desirable. Some forces have introduced raincoats made of a gaberdine material with a suede rubber back which is said to be waterproof. A number of forces have adopted the style of gaberdine raincoat recommended by the 1947 Uniform Committee, or with a plain back with centre seam which enables the coat to be cut a little fuller than the Paletot style back given in specification 11 of the 1947 Report. Others have introduced gaberdine raincoats made in the style of the greatcoat for sergeants and constables (specification 8 of the 1947 Report).

Paramatta mackintoshes keep out the rain and dry quickly. They tend to wear quickly, however, where the material gets rubbed, i.e., at the cuffs, front edges, buttonholes, armpits and pockets. The belt also causes wear at the waist on those parts of the coat which are gathered in when it is belted, and for that reason a number of forces have adopted a single breasted style of raincoat with no belt. The coats are subject to condensation inside the shoulders and should be half-lined to absorb perspiration. A fast dye should be used to prevent fading.

The representatives of the Police Federation informed us that their members would welcome the issue of a good gaberdine raincoat in place of a greatcoat, which they regarded as out-moded. Our members who are Chief Officers of Police agreed that greatcoats are seldom worn and that it would be sufficient if both men and women had one for very cold weather and for use on ceremonial occasions.

We therefore decided to recommend—

- (i) The provision of a light weight shower-proof gaberdine raincoat, with a lining, smartly cut in the style of the uniform greatcoat (Specification No. 8 in Appendix I of the 1947 Report). Having regard to the experiments with new materials for raincoats which are constantly taking place, we decided not to recommend standard materials for raincoats.
- (ii) The provision of a paramatta mackintosh, of double texture Union cashmere, the design to be left to the discretion of each police authority.
- (iii) That one greatcoat should be withdrawn, and the appropriate body invited to consider amending the scale of issue of greatcoats.

Whether standard specifications should be recommended for protective clothing and other garments for wear by motor cyclists

11. In the course of our deliberations we have assumed that it is the general practice for motor cycles to be fitted with wind screens or other similar form of weather protection. At present the kit of motor cyclists is left to the discretion of each police authority. As, however, many more men are performing duty on motor cycles, some guidance about their kit seems desirable. We obtained information from police forces employing a number of motor cyclists about the kits issued to them and we saw some of the kits on motor cyclists. We were favourably impressed with the kits worn by motor cyclists

in the Devon and Wolverhampton police forces which, apart from ordinary items of uniform, consist of the following items:

Devon

Crash helmet.
Goggles with four-sided clear lens.
Gloves—black hide, hand lined with imitation lamb. Elastic wrists, zip fastener. Fitted with detachable waterproof over-mitt.
Boots, knee length, unlined black leather. Laced and strapped. Fitted with steel heel and toe plates.
Motor cyclist's coat, plastic, belted and fitted with detachable fleece interlining and leg attachments.
Motor cyclist's leggings, plastic, unlined and fitted with side and ankle straps.

Wolverhampton

Crash helmet.
Goggles.
Black leather mittens with white gauntlets.
Black leather leggings worn with riding breeches.
Black two-piece suit of polyvynal chloride coated material, fleecy lined, consisting of over-trousers and jacket.

The majority of our members agreed that knee length boots are desirable for motor cyclists because they give greater protection to the legs and feet, in the event of an accident, than ankle boots and gaiters. We feel there is room for further experiment with waterproof suits for motor cyclists, but desirable features of those we saw were (i) an inner front apron fastened to the waterproof leggings to prevent rain collecting in the lap from running down to the motor cyclist's seat; (ii) an inner neckband to prevent rain getting down the neck; (iii) a detachable woollen lining; and (iv) epaulettes to which numerals can be attached as a means of identification.

We agreed, because of the need for further experiments, not to lay down standard specifications for protective clothing and other garments for wear by motor cyclists, but to recommend—

- (i) that men employed on mechanised beat patrol, i.e. on light-weight motor cycles, should be provided with the normal items of uniform issued to men on beat duty, but with a re-inforced helmet, as supplied in the Metropolitan police force. A specification of the re-inforced helmet is given (Specification No. 7) in Appendix I.
- (ii) that men employed on other motor cycling duties should be provided with kits similar to those of the Devon or Wolverhampton police forces. Photographs of Devon and Wolverhampton police motor cyclists in their uniforms are appended (Plates 4-14).

Whether standard specifications should be recommended for uniform clothing for dog handlers

12. We obtained information from forces with police dogs about the kits issued to dog handlers and we saw dog handlers from the Birmingham and Metropolitan police forces. In Birmingham, and a number of other police forces, dog handlers wear ordinary police uniform, with a British Warm type of greatcoat, and are issued with additional items for training duties, namely, mackintoshes, gumboots, breeches and leather gaiters. In the Metropolitan police force dog handlers wear the ordinary uniform jacket, breeches, leather gaiters, ordinary ankle boots, British Warm, cap and leather gloves, and they have gumboots and dungarees for training duties.

Our enquiries showed that breeches and gaiters are unsuitable for dog handlers because of restriction on the legs which causes discomfort when worn for any length of time; the gaiters are cold in winter and hot in summer and heavy rain seeps through the leather and they often have to be put on damp. It is essential that dog handlers should have good waterproof boots when tracking through undergrowth. We saw a specimen of the boots worn by dog handlers in the Birmingham City Police force, which had a rubber sole and heel made in one piece, were said to be entirely waterproof and cost 41s., plus 2s. purchase tax, a pair. In wet weather the British Warm and ordinary length mackintosh get dirty at the edges where the dog rubs up against them, or jumps up, and capes cannot be worn because they would hamper control of the dog.

We therefore recommend that the following items of uniform should be provided for dog handlers:

Flat cap.

Ordinary uniform jacket.

Ordinary uniform trousers.

Good waterproof ankle boots.

Short canvas anklets.

Smooth rubber tubular leggings for wet weather.

Three-quarter length belted mackintosh with a detachable lining.

Lined and unlined leather gloves.

Policewomen's Uniform.

13. As stated earlier in our report, standard specifications for the design and materials of policewomen's uniform have not been laid down. In 1946 an informal Committee, consisting of representatives of the Home Office, H.M. Inspectors of Constabulary, Metropolitan policewomen, the Ministry of Supply Directorate of Clothing and the Council of Industrial Design, was set up to consider the question of the design of the Metropolitan policewomen's uniform, and they redesigned the uniform on the lines of that now worn by the women in the Metropolitan police force. The uniform is individually tailored and fitted and it is generally regarded as being smart and business-like.

We recommend that the Metropolitan policewomen's uniform should be adopted as the standard pattern for policewomen; and that police authorities should be recommended to have the uniforms of their policewomen individually tailored and fitted. Specifications of the Metropolitan policewomen's jacket, skirt and greatcoat are given (Specifications Nos. 8, 9 and 10) in Appendix I.

14. In conclusion we recommend that the attention of police authorities should be drawn to paragraph 34 of the 1947 Report in which it is strongly recommended that no material for the manufacture of police uniform should be accepted by police authorities unless it has first been submitted for testing to one of the approved testing establishments and a certificate has been obtained that the material complies in all respects with the standards laid down. Details of the standard materials are given in Appendix II of the 1947 Report and Appendix II of this Report.

15. We wish to place on record our thanks in acknowledgment of the assistance we have received from all Chief Officers of Police who have furnished us with the miscellaneous information for which we have asked, and from a number of Chief Officers who have in addition lent specimen garments and made it possible for certain members of their force to attend before us.

We also wish to express our appreciation of the services rendered by our Secretary, Miss G. E. Barlow. The Committee has been greatly assisted in its task by Miss Barlow's cheerful and efficient performance of all the work which has had to be undertaken and by her initiative in obtaining and preparing information and material from many sources. We are much indebted to her.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servants,

W. J. A. WILLIS (*Chairman*)

R. R. M. BACON

JANE HUDSON

CHARLES G. BOX

C. KENT SIM

P. W. CARTHEW

C. H. LUCAS

A. F. CORBY

J. MURRAY

R. J. S. CROFT

J. M. RYMER-JONES

CHARLES EDMONDS

W. H. STEPHENS

A. C. EVANS

H. STUDDY

NORMAN W. GOODCHILD

THOS. WATERHOUSE

G. E. BARLOW (*Secretary*)

10th February 1958

APPENDIX I

SPECIFICATION 1

Light-weight Jacket: Sergeants and Constables

(Materials for Jacket: Barathea T.807, Serge OS/2295 and Botany Serge)

<i>Style</i>	Single-breasted Infantry Officer's Style, four buttons. Gorge cuts to pockets. Double darts sewn in.
<i>Material</i>	As specified.
<i>Lining</i>	Body unlined.
<i>Button Stand</i>	Cut on $1\frac{1}{2}$ ".
<i>Sleeves</i>	Pointed cuffs. 6" points, $2\frac{1}{4}$ " at sides. Dropped in. Cuffs single stitched on. Lined beatrice twill.
<i>Pockets</i>	Inside left skirt pocket black silesia, horizontal mouth 8" wide, 10" deep to meet facing. Two out breast pleated patch $1\frac{1}{2}$ ". 6" wide $6\frac{1}{2}$ " deep. Stayed linen. Pockets double stitched, 3 point flaps hole and button. Lined Italian. $2\frac{1}{2}$ " at points. Breast Patches positioned 1" above Pockets, Top button double stitched. Two inside hip swing pockets, jetted mouth $6\frac{1}{2}$ ", 3 point flap laid on 1" above jetted mouth. Pockets stayed black linen, machine felled. Hip flaps $8\frac{1}{2}$ " wide, 3" points, hole and button, lined Italian. Hip pockets, swing patches black silesia.
<i>Collar</i>	Step. $1\frac{1}{2}$ " stand, $1\frac{1}{4}$ " fall. Under collar self. Diamond stitched.
<i>Inlays</i>	None.
<i>Canvas</i>	Fine black.
<i>Stays</i>	Linen.
<i>Seams</i>	Plain. All seams serged.
<i>Waist hooks</i>	None.
<i>Braiding</i>	Braid hanger.
<i>Back</i>	Centre seam slip to waist, under lap turned in and machined. Top turned under 2" machine felled.
<i>Shoulder straps and Tabs</i>	Right end straps to meet collar 3" hase, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " end, hole and button. Lined Italian, interlined French. Straps felled down all round.
<i>Facings and Bottoms</i>	Neck point facings cut wide enough to cover gorge cuts. Bottoms up and in $\frac{1}{2}$ " machined through. Facing hagged to bottom. Back edge of facing machine felled.
<i>Edges</i>	$\frac{1}{4}$ " swell and flaps. Shoulder straps double stitched.
<i>Buttons</i>	4 large, 2 straps, 4 pockets. Chrome uniform.
<i>Holes</i>	4 front, 2 straps, 4 pockets, 6 eyelet.
<i>Belt</i>	All round, made up single width, stitched down to $3\frac{1}{2}$ " from fronts. Lined Italian at ends. Finished 2 prong chrome buckle.
<i>Back straps</i>	3 sets eyelets $1\frac{1}{2}$ " apart. Square end. Coil of wadding in sleeve head.

SPECIFICATION 2

Light-weight trousers: Sergeants and Constables

(Materials for trousers: Barathea T.807, Serge OS/2295 and Botany Serge)

<i>Style</i>	Fly front 6 holes and button; top bands and seat pieces only; unlined; plain side seams. Rise of trousers not less than 14" for 5 ft. 10 ins. man.
--------------	--

<i>Pockets</i>	Two side, one staff and one fob in waist seam. (One or two hip pockets jettied optional.)
<i>Stays</i>	Tops interlined with white duck; back button stays of black linen; pockets, fly and button catch stayed with black linen; fly faced with black twill.
<i>Trimmings</i>	Bound tops—4-hole composition buttons. Waist and seat linings grey calico. Pockets of drab cotton pocketing.

SPECIFICATION 3

Shirts and Collars, Blue: Sergeants and Constables

(Materials for shirts and collars: Shirting, Cotton, Poplin, blue grey)
Defence Specification DEF 1007A—Patt. No. T.654

<i>Collars</i>	Short points, trubenised, 3 collars to each shirt.
<i>Manufacture</i>	<p>All stitching shall be lockstitched with not less than 14 nor more than 16 stitches to the inch. The buttons shall be sewn on with not less than 8 stitches through each pair of holes, and the thread shall be securely finished off.</p> <p>The front opening shall be provided with 3 <i>plastic</i> buttons and buttonholes.</p> <p>The sleeve shall have a single wrist and button cuff.</p> <p>The sleeves and yoke shall be shaped and cut as Standard Pattern.</p> <p>The neckband shall be fitted with three buttonholes, one centre of back and two front.</p> <p>The back shall be pleated into yoke with 1½" pleat at centre back. Loops shall be attached to carry detachable epaulettes, at yoke/top of sleeve: measuring the width of the yoke by ¾" wide.</p>
<i>Pockets</i>	<p>Two breast pockets with pleat and and button flap.</p> <p>Pocket size 6½" deep by 6" wide with 1" centre flap. Flap: Three point button flap. Length from top of flap 7".</p> <p>The pocket top shall be positioned 2" above horizontal line bottom of acye/body join.</p>

SPECIFICATION 4

Detachable Shoulder Strap (Men)

(Material for detachable shoulder strap: Navy Blue Gabardine)

Top side 2½" wide at base, 1½" wide at points near top. Underside 2½" wide at base, 1½" wide at points near top. Length 5½" from base to point.

Front of strap to run parallel with shoulder seam with point to collar. Fastened hole and button with two loops affixed to shirt.

Bottom loops to pass through strap at base. Top loop to pass through strap immediately below hole and button.

Self lined with inter-lining of linen.

SPECIFICATION 5

Shirts and Collars, White: Women Police

(Material for shirts and collars: Poplin, No. 1, white.)

Defence Specification DEF 1007A—(Patt. No. T.646)

<i>Collars</i>	Short points, trubenised, 3 collars to each shirt.
<i>Manufacture</i>	Coat style, without collar, 4 hole and button front, out breast patch pocket left side, single cuff with button. Epaulette loop attached at yoke and top of sleeve measuring the width of the yoke by $\frac{3}{8}$ " wide.

SPECIFICATION 6

Detachable Shoulder Strap (Women)

(Material for detachable shoulder strap: Navy Blue Gabardine)

Top side 2" wide at base. $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide at points near top. Underside 2" wide at base. $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide at points near top.
Length 4" from base to point.
Front of strap to run parallel with shoulder seam with point to collar.
Fastened hole and button with two loops affixed to shirt.
Bottom loops to pass through strap at base. Top loop to pass through strap immediately below hole and button.
Self lined with inter-lining of linen.

SPECIFICATION 7

Reinforced Helmet: Sergeants and Constables

(Material for helmet cloth: T.5)

<i>Shape</i>	As standard pattern.
<i>Linings</i>	To be of green pegamoid of the quality of the pattern, in six parts, strongly and neatly sewn together.
<i>Body</i>	To be formed throughout of two layers of cork of the best quality, with an additional layer at the front, covering an area of not less than one-third of the total circumference. The edges of the cork shall be well lapped over and the layers firmly joined to each other in every part. An extra piece of cork shall be inserted at the front peak to give additional strength. In all, the body shall be made up of 23 pieces of cork. The brim and front and back peaks shall be well blocked and steamed into permanent shape so as not to warp. The sides shall be curled.
<i>Cover</i>	The cloth outer cover shall be of cap cloth T.5 and be made in two sections neatly and strongly sewn together with mercerised cotton. The nap of the cloth shall brush in all cases downwards from crown to brim in each helmet. Two eyelet hole ventilators each side, and two at the back and a collet and washer shall be provided at the top centre crown below the rose top, which shall have a screw thread to match the collet. This centre screw thread shall be of such a length that it shall not protrude on the inside of the helmet.

*Brow Unit,
Headband and
Additional
Cork Padding*

The Brow unit shall be of cork approximately 2½mm. thick and shall be covered one side with white swansdown and on the other side with black twill. It shall be 4" in depth, and shaped to follow the inside contour of the helmet. The headband shall be of natural basil leather and shall be 2 inches in depth when finished. Before the brow and headband unit is inserted into the helmet, there shall be a cork pad, approximately 5 mm. thick and measuring approximately 6" in depth and 5" in width, shaped as in the sealed pattern, inserted in the upper frontal area and attached to the inside of the helmet by rubber solution or some other suitable adhesive. The front plate which shall be backed by natural cork of approximately 2½mm. thick, shall be attached through the helmet with paper fastener attachments which shall be bent back into position prior to the insertion of the cork pad. The chin straps which shall carry a suitably pronged buckle and the appropriate holes shall be shaped and attached as in the sealed pattern, and shall be of terylene webbing ¾" wide, covered with suitable leather in which the dye shall be fast.

Binding

The helmet shall be bound with japanned moleskin, free from cracks, or suitable plastic, and put on in one single piece with stitches nine to the inch.

Solution

The inside lining, all layers of cork, and the outside cover shall be twice rubbered and well dried between each rubbering. The cover and body to be again rubbered before being pulled over. The helmet shall be fitted with a band of metal beading which shall be attached to the helmet by a front pin and a side rose on each side of the helmet. Neither the side roses nor the front pin shall pass through the cork brow.

SPECIFICATION 8

Jacket: Women Police

(Material for jacket: Blue Barathea, T.807—17½ ozs.)

<i>Style</i>	Single-breasted jacket. Panel front. Under-arm cut.
<i>Collar</i>	Step collar. Stand 1½". Fall 1½". Width of lapel 3½". Sewing on edge turned in and hand felled. Collar step 1½". Collar end 1½".
<i>Back</i>	Centre seam and slit, stumped at natural waist.
<i>Belt</i>	Loose belt 1½" wide fastened single prong buckle, chromium plated and three eyelets. Lined self.
<i>Fastenings</i>	4 hole and button front. Front buttons 27 line chromium plated. Pocket flap and shoulder strap small chromium plated buttons.
<i>Sleeves</i>	Pointed cuff. 5½" to point. 2½" at seams. Two armlet loops left sleeve, 3½" x ½".
<i>Pockets</i>	Twill No. 2 Black. Two out-breast with 3 point flap. Flaps 2" at points with hole and button. Buttons of pockets to be on level with top hole and button of foreparts. Jetted pocket mouth. Two cross pockets on hips. Pocket mouths jetted. Patched on flaps. Flap 2½" wide, 7" long. Pocket mouths 5". Fastened hole and button. Two inside breast pockets.
<i>Shoulder straps</i>	Shoulder straps with rounded ends. 2½" base, 1½" top, fastened hole and button. Lined black art twill. Interlined medium buckram.
<i>Linings</i>	Body and shoulder straps lined black rayon twill. Sleeve lined beatrice twill, undyed.
<i>Finish</i>	Front edges, shoulder straps, cuffs and belt, stitched on edge. Flaps stitched on edge, top jetting ½" off. Button holes machined. All buttons fastened best linen thread. All stays to be of linen.
<i>Hanger</i>	Rayon Twill.
<i>Label</i>	Name and date, top back under hanger.

SPECIFICATION 9

Skirt: Women Police

(Material for skirt: Blue Baratheia, T.807—17½ ozs.)

- Style* 6 gore with inverted pleat back and front, stitched on edge each side to 12½" from bottom.
- Two front pockets 8" deep and 5½" to 6" wide on slant—jetted. Silesia pocketing, bartel pleated back and front with cloth facings. Pocket mouths stayed linen. Linen stays to run from pocket mouth tack into waist band.
- 8" zip fastener at placket and bar tacked at bottom of zip. Placket stayed linen.
- 1½" waist band of same material with hole and button and interlined canvas or linen.
- Two hangers.
- 3" turn up at bottom. Taped and felled.
- Name label inside on back pleat.

SPECIFICATION 10

Greatcoat: Women Police

(Material for greatcoat: Blue Tartan, T.95—23½ ozs.)

- Style* Double-breasted Lancer front. Button 5, Turn 2, with a two-way front to button up or turn at will. Top two button-holes worked in facing. Breast out 10" long from shoulder. Waist dart 6" long upward from pocket.
- Collar* Double-breasted two way. Fall 2½". Stand 1½". Collar end 3½". Width of lapel 6" from collar ends. Collar stand felled on by hand.
- Back* Whole back with 2" pleat right through centre. Stitched down at top each side centre of pleat, with ½" wide stitching to 4½" from sewing on edge of collar. Pleat then free for 11½", stitched down again for 8" when free again to bottom of coat.
- Belt* Two piece with 2 holes and buttons stitched ½" off.
- Fastenings* Ten (five each side) large chromium-plated buttons 38 line on fronts. Right side plugged. Left side sewn through. Small chromium-plated buttons 27 line on belt and shoulder straps. Jigger button at breast. Top front button-hole 2" from top. Buttons 5" back at bottom, 10" at top.
- Sleeves* Plain 2 inch turn-up. Two loops on left sleeve for armlet, 3½" x ½".
- Pockets* Two cross-flaps with pockets on slant. Flaps 6½" x 2½" lined black art silk. Bottom edge jetted. Silesia pocketing. Depth of pocket 8" from mouth.
- Shoulder straps* Detachable, rounded ends. Interlined with buckram and lined black rayon twill. Button hole 1½" down from top of strap. Button to show below collar. Base 2½"—top 1½".
- Linings* Body half lined black rayon twill. Sleeves lined black rayon twill.
- Finish* Front edges turned and stitched. Front edges, flaps and belt stitched ½" off. Cross pocket mouth jettings stitched ½" off seams. Shoulder straps plain. Machine button holes. Hand felled raw edge facings. All buttons fastened best linen thread. All stays to be of linen. 2½" turn up at bottom felled.
- Hanger* Black art silk.

APPENDIX II

Materials

Description	Width exclusive of lists	Weight per linear yard lists as in pattern	Number of threads per inch		Minimum breaking loads: Constant rate of traverse:				Dye
					Strength		Elongation		
			Warp	Weft	Warp	Weft	Warp	Weft	
Barathea, worsted, blue, No. 3 ... Pattern No. T.807 DEF 1000B.	56"	17½ ozs.	76	70	lbs. 400	lbs. 375	3"	3¼"	Vat indigo, piece dyed as pattern
Serge, worsted, blue ... Pattern No. OS/2295.	58"	19/20 ozs.	60	52	440	380	2¼"	2½"	Vat indigo, piece dyed as pattern
Serge, botany ...	58"	19/20 ozs.	60	52	440	380	2-4/5"	2½"	Vat indigo, piece dyed as pattern



Plate 1. Light weight jacket for constables and sergeants (front view).



Plate 2. Light weight jacket for constables and sergeants (side view).



Plate 3. Light weight jacket for constables and sergeants (back view)



Plate 4. Motor cyclist of the Devon police force in full kit for wet weather.



Plate 5. Motor cyclist of the Devon police force in wet weather kit, with white traffic sleeves.



Plate 6. Motor cyclist of the Devon police force, without plastic leggings.



Plate 7. Motor cyclist of the Devon police force showing type of plastic leggings.



Plate 8. Motor cyclist of the Devon police force showing epaulettes carrying numerals and divisional markings, and " POLICE " painted on the plastic coat.



Plate 9. Motor cyclist of the Devon police force in fine weather kit.



Plate 10. Motor cyclist of the Wolverhampton police force in full kit for wet weather.

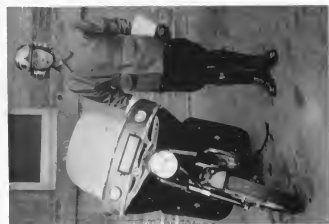


Plate 11. Motor cyclist of the Wolverhampton police force without plastic over-trowsers.



Plate 12. Motor cyclist of the Wolverhampton police force without plastic jacket.



Plate 13. Motor cyclist of the Wolverhampton police force showing epaulettes carrying numerals and divisional markings, and chevrons on the plastic jacket.



Plate 14. Motor cyclist of the Wolverhampton police force in fine weather kit.